

DEPARTMENT OF
PUBLIC SAFETY AND CORRECTIONS

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FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE

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Rayburn Correctional Center Hosts Inmate Job/Resource Fair Employers, Community Groups Invited to Attend

(Angie, LA) The Louisiana Department of Public Safety and Corrections encourages employers and community resource agencies to participate in a Job and Community Resource Fair at Rayburn Correctional Center (RCC) on **June 27, 2007, from 8:00 a.m. to 2:00 p.m.**, in Angie, La.

More than 115 skilled and semi-skilled inmates who are eligible for release within the next year will attend. Most inmates will be releasing to communities in and around the New Orleans area. However, because of the devastation caused to the homes of many of the inmates, they may be willing to relocate to other areas. Prior to incarceration, many inmates already possessed skills and good work histories in construction, heavy equipment operation, oilfield work and the restaurant industry. Inmates also receive job skills training in prison jobs such as:

Automotive Repair
Paralegal
Janitor
Kitchen Worker
Forklift Operator
Carpenter
Tailor
Painter

Clerical Assistant
Animal Caretaker
Plumber
Roofer
Laundry Technician
Grounds Maintenance
Chemical Handler
Warehouse Worker

Hospital Orderly
Cook
Electrical/HVAC Helper
Building Maintenance
Shoe Repairer
Library Clerk
Heavy Equipment
Chemical Packager

Released inmates qualify for the Work Opportunity Tax Credit Program entitling employers to a 40% tax credit on the first \$6,000 wages paid. Companies may also qualify for an additional reimbursement of 50% of the employee's salary if they meet Workforce Investment Act (WIA) criteria. Federal bonding is also available.

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The *Louisiana Technical College-Sullivan Institute* in Bogalusa operates vocational training classes at RCC. Inmates receive skills training in automotive, carpentry, computers, welding, small engine repair and some college courses. A majority of RCC students also earn their GED's. Most receive employability training from facility staff, so employers get a more reliable individual in their workplace.

Facility staff will provide assistance before, during, and after the fair. Inmates will prepare job applications in advance for employers who need detailed training and work history information. Lunch will be provided.

Participants need only bring their display materials, but they must complete a registration form to obtain a security clearance. The deadline to reserve a space at the Rayburn Correctional Center Job and Community Resource Fair is June 18, 2007. Please contact either Allen Bourgeois at (985) 986-5069 or Sheryl Muwwakkil at (985) 986-5062 to register. Registration forms can be downloaded and printed by visiting www.doc.louisiana.gov. Look under "Press Releases."

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